

III. Remarks

A. Status of the Application

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-12, 47, 49, and 50 are currently pending. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 2, 7-12, 47, 49, and 50 are allowed. Claim 48 is cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein by the present paper. Claims 3, 5, 6, and 13-46 were cancelled previously without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claim 4 is currently amended to overcome the Examiner's objection by clarifying the two tines have leading cutting edges that are beveled. Therefore, in view of the above amendments, Applicants believe that this application is now in condition to receive a formal notice of allowance.

IV. Conclusion

It is believed that all matters set forth in the Office Action mailed May 29, 2008 have been addressed. In view of the foregoing amendments, the Applicants respectfully request further and favorable consideration of the present application.

If an interview with Applicants' undersigned attorney would expedite consideration or prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via EFS-Web on August 26, 2008.


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